

By Larry Gierer Friday, August 20, 2010

Two \$400,000 grants by the United State Department of Agriculture have been awarded to benefit socially and economically disadvantaged farmers in Southwest Georgia.

Krysta Harden, USDA Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, announced the grants and said "I can not tell you how great it is to see these dollars come to Southwest Georgia. The grants will provide farmers with training about natural resources and technological resources.

"These are your federal tax dollars," said Congressman Sanford Bishop who played a key role in securing the grants. "These are the dollars we in Southwest Georgia send to Washington, D.C. I'm just happy that together we've been able to bring these dollars back to Southwest Georgia. These two grants will make real the opportunities for economically disadvantaged and socially disadvantaged farmers in this area to have access to resources, particularly water."

One grant is going to the Flint River Water Planning and Policy Center. The second is going to the Federation of Southern Cooperatives.